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Area Wage Survey
Knoxville, TN
December 1984

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U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Summary
January 1985

This summary presents results of a December 1984 survey of occupational wages in the Knoxville Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, which consists of Anderson, Blount, Knox, and Union Counties, Tenn. This is 1 of 92 areas which the Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys at the request of the Employment Standards Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for use in administering the Service Contract Act of 1965. In addition, the Bureau conducts more extensive studies of occupational wages and related benefits in 71 other areas throughout the United States. For information on these reports and other Bureau publications, contact any BLS regional office identified on the back page.

This study covered establishments employing 50 workers or more in manufacturing; transportation, communication, and other public utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and selected services. A sample of 89 establishments employing 37,571 workers was selected to represent 316 establishments employing 71,647 workers in the area. (See table 2 for further information on the scope of the survey.) Data collected in the sample of establishments were projected to represent all establishments within the scope of the survey.

Table 1 provides hourly earnings information on office and plant workers employed in selected occupations common to a variety of industries. Occupational classification was based on a uniform set of job descriptions designed to take account of variations in job duties among establishments. The job descriptions used in the survey are available on request.

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Table 1. Hourly earnings[1] of selected occupations in Knoxville, TN, December 1984

Occupation	Number of workers			Hourly earnings (all workers)[1]			Number of workers receiving straight-time hourly earnings (in dollars) of —																	
	All[2]	Men	Women	Mean	Median	Middle range	3.35 and under 3.50	3.50 – 4.00	4.00 – 4.50	4.50 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.50	5.50 – 6.00	6.00 – 6.50	6.50 – 7.00	7.00 – 7.50	7.50 – 8.00	8.00 – 8.50	8.50 – 9.00	9.00 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.00	10.00 – 10.50	10.50 – 11.00	11.00 – 12.00	12.00 – 13.00	13.00 – 14.00	14.00 – 15.00
Secretaries	361	-	360	7.97	8.11	6.25- 9.35	-	4	2	15	20	31	34	19	25	23	34	44	30	27	15	12	17	5	4	-
Secretaries I	149	-	149	6.66	6.13	5.43- 8.00	-	4	2	15	20	26	9	6	15	14	13	18	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stenographers	22	-	20	9.74	10.36	8.91-10.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	3	1	1	11	1	2	-	-	-
Typists	28	-	28	5.35	5.56	3.94- 6.24	-	7	2	3	1	6	3	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typists I	18	-	18	4.70	4.30	3.75- 5.48	-	7	2	3	1	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
File clerks	19	-	19	5.32	4.91	4.91- 5.21	-	-	2	10	4	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
File clerks I	16	-	16	4.88	4.91	4.91- 5.01	-	-	2	10	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receptionists	7	-	7	5.75	6.41	- -	-	-	-	1	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Switchboard operators	50	-	49	4.87	5.00	4.35- 5.31	-	3	10	8	21	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Key entry operators	173	-	173	5.32	5.00	4.69- 5.90	-	9	5	67	32	21	15	20	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Key entry operators I	159	-	159	5.22	4.95	4.69- 5.90	-	9	5	66	30	17	13	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Key entry operators II	14	-	14	6.48	5.98	- -	-	-	-	1	2	4	2	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Computer operators	106	57	49	6.82	6.42	5.60- 7.74	-	-	-	16	9	17	15	8	12	6	4	4	5	3	5	-	2	-	-	-
Computer operators I	80	39	41	6.57	6.42	5.33- 7.45	-	-	-	16	9	8	12	8	10	2	3	4	2	3	3	-	-	-	-	-
Computer operators II	26	18	8	7.57	7.36	5.94- 8.89	-	-	-	-	-	9	3	-	2	4	1	-	3	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
Drafters	115	95	20	10.61	10.55	8.11-12.85	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	19	5	3	10	4	9	4	10	20	21	3
Drafters II	16	9	7	8.60	8.00	7.00-10.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	3	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Drafters III	33	22	11	8.33	7.56	7.56- 9.23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	3	10	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Electronics technicians	61	58	3	10.82	11.59	8.62-11.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	11	4	-	-	-	-	29	8	5	-
Electronics technicians II	35	32	3	11.51	11.62	11.42-11.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	5	-
Maintenance electricians	705	655	50	13.12	12.85	12.85-14.32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	9	-	-	-	1	1	18	-	34	392	-	244
Maintenance machinists	471	459	12	13.58	14.58	12.85-14.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	141	-	256
Motor vehicle mechanics	177	173	4	11.94	12.85	10.60-13.93	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	1	14	2	4	-	3	1	-	38	-	23	59	26
General maintenance workers	167	166	1	5.99	6.50	5.15- 6.70	-	24	5	6	18	11	18	54	8	19	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Truckdrivers	473	468	5	7.81	7.65	6.15-10.25	-	7	28	46	17	11	22	77	24	22	4	31	4	48	58	66	-	8	-	-
Truckdrivers, medium truck	240	235	5	8.17	7.13	6.60-10.50	-	-	4	12	12	11	18	46	23	-	-	-	4	39	-	63	-	8	-	-
Truckdrivers, heavy truck	71	71	-	7.21	7.65	4.50-10.25	-	7	7	21	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	9	24	-	-	-	-	-
Truckdrivers, tractor-trailer	130	130	-	8.30	8.58	6.75-10.25	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	31	1	19	4	31	-	-	34	3	-	-	-	-
Material handling laborers	212	196	16	7.38	9.16	4.75- 9.40	14	7	21	24	4	13	4	-	-	-	10	1	102	-	12	-	-	-	-	-
Forklift operators	657	633	24	9.26	8.51	6.93-12.39	1	5	28	8	7	27	36	131	-	36	7	60	41	-	-	-	-	270	-	-
Guards	608	529	79	6.89	4.75	3.65-10.63	114	115	52	34	3	14	-	1	-	1	1	5	2	-	29	237	-	-	-	-
Guards I	339	312	27	3.97	3.65	3.45- 4.07	114	115	52	34	3	14	-	1	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Janitors, porters, and cleaners	1,271	852	419	5.18	3.50	3.35- 6.37	582	181	106	20	11	12	53	3	5	-	32	8	151	-	-	-	107	-	-	-

[1] Excludes premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends, holidays, and late shifts. Also excluded are performance bonuses and lump-sum payments of the type negotiated in the auto and aerospace industries, as well as profit-sharing payments, attendance bonuses, Christmas or year-end bonuses, and other nonproduction bonuses. Cost of living allowances and incentive payments, however, are included. Hourly earnings reported for salaried workers are derived from regular salaries divided by the corresponding standard hours of work. The wages of learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers are excluded. The mean is computed for each job by totaling the earnings of all workers and dividing by the number of workers. The median designates position--one-half of the workers receive the same as or more and one-half receive the same as or less than the rate shown. The middle range is defined by two rates of pay; one-fourth of the workers earn the same as or less than the lower of these rates and one-fourth earn the same as or more than the higher rate.

[2] For occupations with more than one level, data are included in the overall classification when a subclassification is not shown or information to subclassify is not available.

Table 2. Establishments and workers within scope of survey and number studied in Knoxville, TN,[1] December 1984

Industry division[2]	Minimum employment in establishments in scope of survey	Number of establishments		Workers in establishments		
		Within scope of survey[3]	Studied	Within scope of survey[4]		Studied
				Number	Percent	
All divisions	50	316	89	71,647	100	37,571
Manufacturing	50	109	29	38,086	53	22,099
Nonmanufacturing[5]	50	207	60	33,561	47	15,472

[1] The Knoxville Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget through February 1974, consists of Anderson, Blount, Knox, and Union Counties, Tenn. The "workers within scope of survey" estimates shown in this table provide a reasonably accurate description of the size and composition of the labor force included in the survey. The estimates are not intended, however, to serve as a basis of comparison with other statistical series for the area to measure employment trends or levels since (1) planning of wage surveys requires the use of establishment data compiled considerably in advance of the payroll period studied, and (2) small establishments are excluded from the scope of the survey.

[2] The 1972 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual was used in classifying establishments by industry division.

[3] Includes all establishments with total employment at or above the minimum limitation. All outlets of companies in such industries as trade, finance, auto repair service, and motion picture theaters (within a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area or nonmetropolitan county) are considered as one establishment.

[4] Includes all workers in all establishments with total employment (within the area) at or above the minimum limitation.

[5] Includes transportation, communication, and other public utilities (excluding taxicabs and services incidental to water transportation); wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; hotels and other lodging places; laundries and other personal services; automobile repair, rental, and parking; motion pictures; nonprofit membership organizations (excluding religious and charitable organizations); engineering and architectural services; and miscellaneous business services. Major industries excluded from this survey are agriculture; mining; construction; some services (notably educational institutions and medical services); and government operations.

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